



September 22, 2024
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

Welcome! If you are an online worshiper or guest today, please leave a record of your time with us online. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

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SERVICE OF WORSHIP
ELW Setting 4 with the Lord's Supper

* *Please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE: "O Love of God, How Strong and True" (N. Williams) Melanie Payne, Organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

Amen.



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
 Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
 Text © 1979 and Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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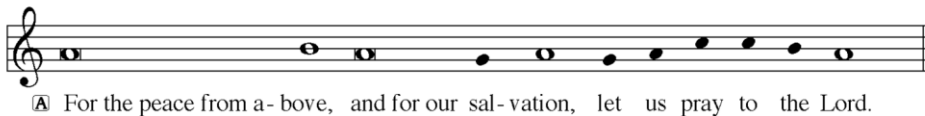
*THE GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

*THE KYRIE



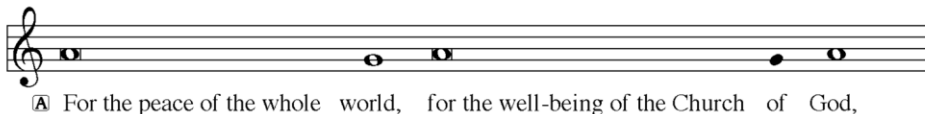
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



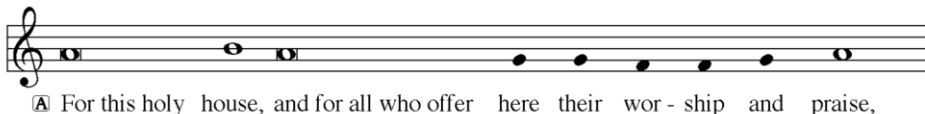
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



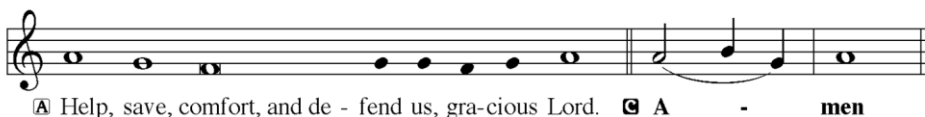
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



B Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

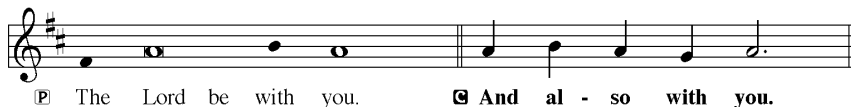


This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

*THE SALUTATION



*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

TEMPLE TALK - Stewardship 'Giving of Our Resources'

Adam Neely

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me

that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

THE PSALM:

Psalm 54

¹Save me, O God, by your name;
in your might, defend my cause.

²Hear my prayer, O God;
give ear to the words of my mouth.

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life,
those who have no regard for God.

⁴Behold, God is my helper;
it is the Lord who sustains my life.

⁵Render evil to those who spy on me;
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

⁶**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice
and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

⁷For you have rescued me from every trouble,
and my eye looks down on my enemies.

THE SECOND LESSON

James 3:13-4:4:3, 7-8a

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is

envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

^{4:1}Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

Bonnie Flowers

*THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go"

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

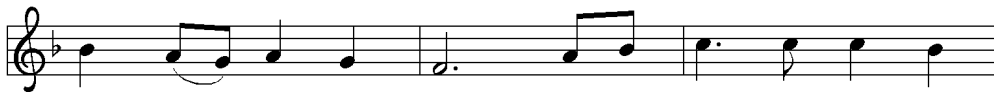
Pastor Bill Schroeder



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

*THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

THE OFFERING

Organ Solo (8:30): "Let All Mortal Flesh" (Charles Callahan)

Choir Anthem (11:00): Built on a Rock (arr. Wood)

*THE OFFERTORY: "Let the Vineyards"

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God,
source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to
serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

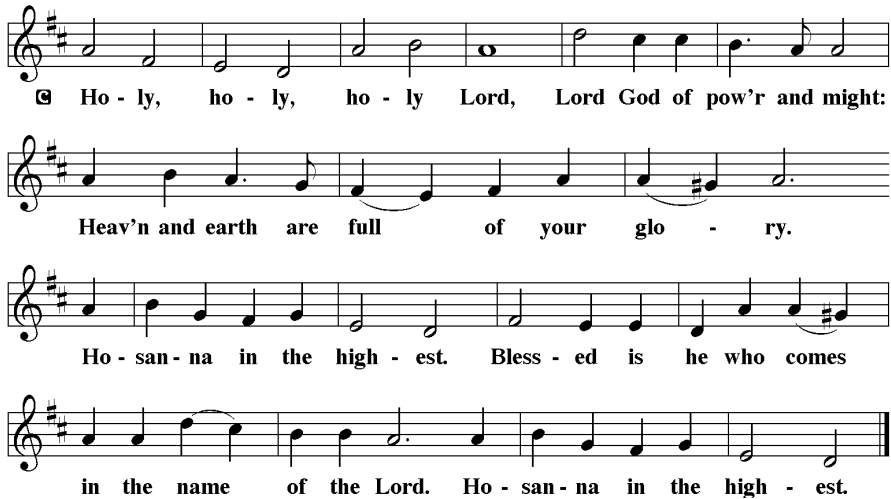
***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING and THE PREFACE**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

***THE SANCTUS**



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

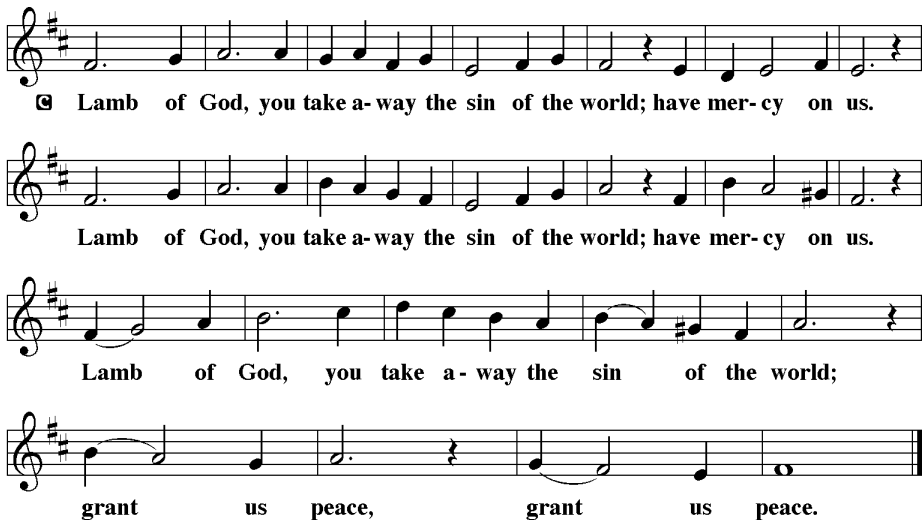
***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen

THE AGNUS DEI: "Lamb of God"



☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "Children of the Heavenly Father"

ELW 781



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,

- 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
- 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
- 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
- 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kån - da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.



Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958
Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed;
 still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
 by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
 stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
 that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © Oxford University Press

HYMN: "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing" (not printed)

LBW (green hymnal) 363

*THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*THE POST COMMUNION CANTICLE "Thank the Lord"



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

*THE BLESSING



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934

Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson

Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

*THE DISMISSAL

THE POSTLUDE: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Clay Christiansen

WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Redacted Content - Please Refer to Prayers of the Church

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Mike and Sue Doubleday in celebration of their ten year anniversary of becoming grandparents and the joy their grandchildren bring.

ALL ARE INVITED to enjoy coffee and fellowship after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

A NURSERY, staffed by Sarah Walker, is through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers, and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Pastor Bill Schroeder for preaching and leading worship this morning, while Pastor Kris serves as Gathering Chaplain at the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA Annual Gathering in Huntsville this weekend.

A "SHARING YOUR FAITH" ADULT CLASS with Pr. Bill Schroeder continues in the Parish Hall at 9:45 a.m. All are welcome!

CELEBRATION & COMMITMENT SUNDAY is Sunday, September 29. Stewardship letters that were not picked up by last Sunday have been mailed to members. Please be sure to return the 2025 Estimate of Giving card and Time and Talent form by mail or offering plate on or before September 29. You can also complete the 2025 pledge online at <https://form.jotform.com/MLCmadison/2025-pledge>

TODAY IS THE LAST SUNDAY TO BUY TICKETS FOR "IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD OF LOVE" DINNER THEATER. Purchase between services in the Fellowship Hall. The show is this **Sat., Sep. 28** at 6 PM. Final day to buy tickets is Wednesday. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 (children, 12 and under).

COME JOIN THE STREAM TEAM Training is planned for today 9:45 a.m. and Sep. 29 for anyone 16 and up wanting to learn some basic live video production skills and software. Please reach out to Meredith at communications@mlutheran.org if you are interested or have questions.

MESSIAH'S ANNUAL HANDMADE MARKET to support *Lunches for Learning* is October 12 & 13! If you have crafts to share or wish to help out in other ways, please contact Elaine Shriver.

MESSIAH'S GERMAN FOOD FESTIVAL is returning for its third year at MLC, and we need **you!** Help is needed in a variety of areas both on the day of the festival (Saturday, November 2) and in the months leading up to it. Want to help? Please visit [Signup Genius](#). Danke! - Dana Burton.

KIT MINISTRY ITEM - Single Toothbrushes

FOOD PANTRY - Instant Mashed Potatoes

Pastor Kristine Schroeder
Director of Music Randall Fields
Organist/Accompanist Melanie Payne
Communication & Tech Director Meredith Kilby
Office Managers Bobbey Huwaldt
Meredith Kilby
Nursery Attendant Sarah Walker

Acolytes
Lector Joan Ellsworth, (8:30)
Lee Smith (11:00)
Ushers Glen Long, Bruce Peter (8:30)
Paul Arnold, Mark Winge (11:00)
Altar Guild Linda Peirce (8:30)
Jutta DeMarsh (11:00)
Stream Team Meredith Kilby (8:30)
Meredith Kilby, Bob Davis (11:00)
Flower Guild Beverly Berry

Pastor Kris Schroeder

Email: pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

Pastor Cell Phone: 480-338-6519

Pastor's office days are Mon - Wed 10 - Noon

MLC staff will never directly solicit you for funds or gift cards via email or text message. Such requests are a scam.

****CHURCH CALENDAR****

Sunday, September 22

- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all Ages
- 9:45 a.m. - "Sharing Your Faith" Adult Class with Pr. Bill
- 5:00 p.m. - Jr. & Sr. Youth Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella

MLC SignUp Genius Site

Tuesday, September 24

- 9:00 a.m. - Comforters
- 5:30 p.m. - Men of Messiah Gather at Straight to Ale (Campus 805)

Wednesday, September 25

- 5:00 p.m. - Confirmation
- 5:30 p.m. - Wednesday Night Dinner Parish Hall
- 6:00 p.m. - Cherub Choir
- 6:00 p.m. - Seraph Choir
- 7:00 p.m. - Messiah Choir

Saturday, September 28

- 6:00 p.m. - Dinner Theater

Sunday, September 29 (Celebration and Commitment Sunday)

- 8:30 a.m. - Service of Worship *ELW 10 (Hymn Service)* with the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - No Pre-K to Gr 12 Classes, Adult Classes Continue
- 9:45 a.m. - "Sharing Your Faith" Adult Class with Pr. Bill
- 11:00 a.m. - *Service of Worship and Livestream *ELW 10 (Hymn Service)* with the Lord's Supper
- 12:00 p.m. - Youth and Education Committee Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella

**These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org and MLC's YouTube Channel*

LOOKING AHEAD

October 12 & 13 - Handmade Market for *Lunches for Learning*

October 15 - Pub Theology Begins (1st & 3rd Tuesdays)

November 2 - German Food Festival

Attendance:

September 8 Online - 38 September 15: 8:30 a.m. - 83 11:00 a.m. - 59



Online Giving

